

El Toro Trail Project Update

January, 15 2013



Meeting Objectives

- Project Approval History
- Review Project Objectives and Goals
- Share Conceptual Trail Vision
- Provide Details on Steps Completed to Date
- List Items Requiring Further Work
- Anticipated Next Steps

Project Approval History of El Toro Trail

- **2002:** City Council approves request to support a Natural Resources Study to supplement the 2002 Bikeways Master Plan
- **2007:** City Council approves the Trails and Natural Resources Study
- **2008-2012:** City Council approves CIP Budgets, which include the El Toro Trail project
- **2010:** City Council approves a 20% funding agreement with the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority for the purchase of the Acton parcel which provides an easement for the trail
- **2012:** City Council authorizes a grant application for TDA Article 3 Funding for El Toro Trail (\$44,000 Received)

Review Project Objectives and Goals

- Implement the City's Trails & Natural Resources Plan by providing public access through a Hiker friendly trail to the summit of El Toro (Project is currently divided into two phases)
- Involve community in decision making process so that final decision meets community needs and address community concerns
- Restore existing trail to natural environment

Provide Details on Steps Completed to Date

- **Hired architect Bellinger Foster Steinmetz for trail planning services**
- **Prepared conceptual trail alignment based upon the approved Trails & Natural Resources Study**
- **Continued dialogue with the Open Space Authority to open a joint trail & utilized their trail building experience**
- **Performed two existing trail user surveys**
- **Met with the Via Grande neighborhood to obtain feedback**

El Toro Trail Vision

- Length of existing trail: .29 miles
- Length of Possible Phase I trail: 1.2 miles
- Length of Proposed OSA trail: .71 miles
- Length of on-street loop .94 miles
- Length of Future Phase II trail: .57 miles
- Length of Possible trail connection: .43 miles



Items Requiring Further Work

- Neighborhood concerns
- Obtaining public access rights to optimize trail experience
- Work with OSA to create a joint trail system
- Expand community involvement
 - Planning
 - Implementation
 - Volunteer opportunities

Neighborhood Concerns

- **Safety** Concerns about non-neighborhood trail users, possible illegal activity & loitering
- **Parking** Visual and inconvenience issues related to trail user parking in neighborhood , loss of residential parking
- **Litter** Trail users leaving trash at trailhead & neighborhood
- **Privacy** Quite neighborhood now dealing with “outsider” pedestrian traffic and increased noise
- **Fire** Potential for trail users to start wildfires
- **Wildlife Impact** Hikers will deter wildlife from the area

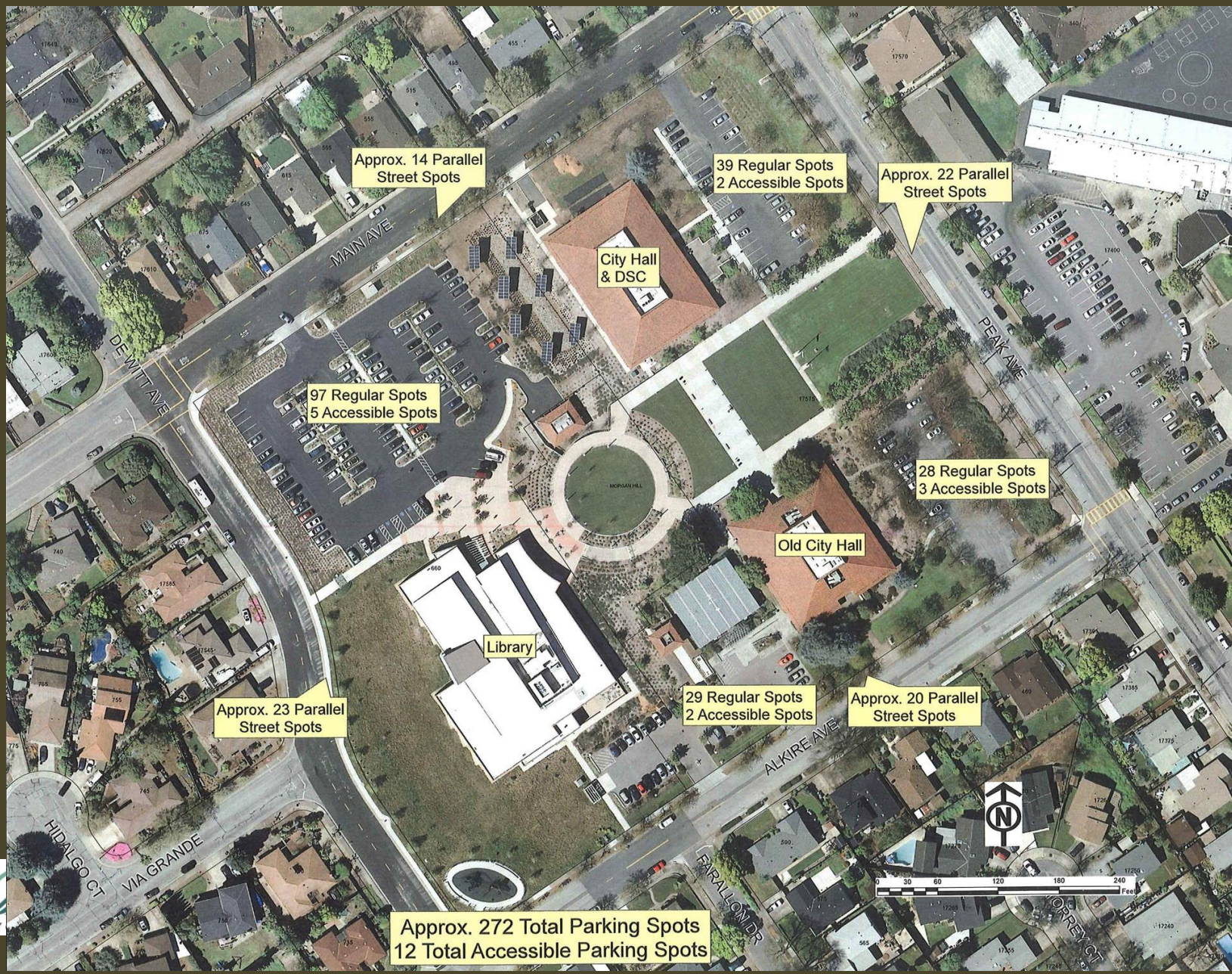
Possible Solutions To Address Neighborhood Concerns

- **Safety**
 - Presence of other users helps minimize undesirable behavior
 - Increase police patrol & establish volunteer trail patrols
- **Parking**
 - Recommend trailhead & parking at Library (restrooms are available)
 - Recommend restricted parking on streets where trail entrances are located
- **Litter**
 - Trash receptacles at trail entrance & trailhead parking locations
- **Privacy**
 - Propose trailhead location at library. This reduces traffic and noise in effected neighborhood
- **Fire**
 - Evaluate risk of trail users starting fires.
- **Wildlife Impact**
 - Evaluate wildlife impacts, perform environmental study

Trail Head Vision



Parking Inventory



Anticipated Next Steps

- **Future community meeting(s)**
- **Review trail alignment and access options with PRC**
- **PRC recommendation to City Council**
- **City Council Direction**



Thank you for attending tonight's meeting

